



GOD'S LOVE

JESUS, OUR GUIDE

Howard Collier

The right way is always the way that is best,
Although we are tempted and tried;
If you have made failures, don't give up the test,
But pray and ask Jesus to guide.

He always is willing to lend us a hand
When Satan would lead us astray;
His grace is sufficient to help us to stand
If we ask His guidance each day.

The path may seem stony while traveling this road,

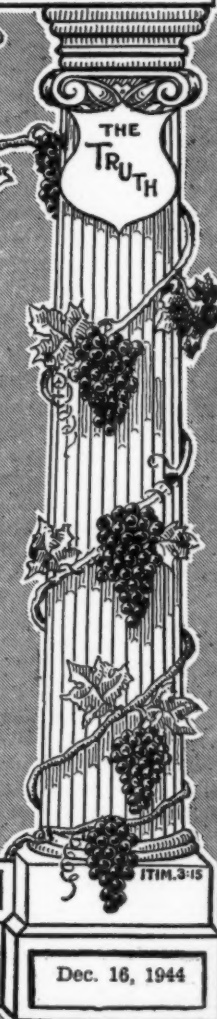
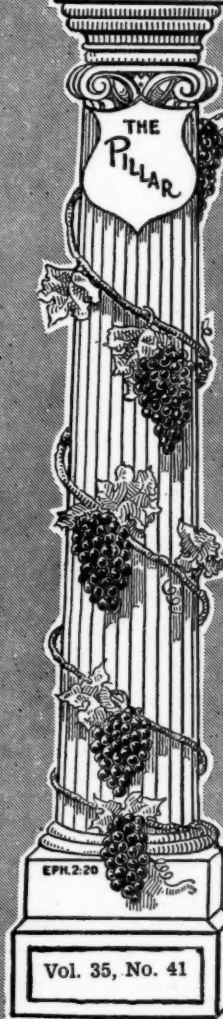
And smoother ones may come to view;
But let us not falter because of our load,
And give up, and say that we are through;

But let us be patient and carry our cross,
Whatever the trials may be;
And follow the leading of Jesus, our guide,
Who suffered upon the tree.

THE GROUND OF



"And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought . . ." Isa. 58:11.



DELKSAID

—By—
D. H. DELK

THE WHOLE ARMOR

(Continued)

"Praying always with all prayer."

It's my honest opinion that the greatest need of any Christian is a spirit of prayer, a mind to pray, a desire to pray, a determination to "PRAY WITHOUT CEASING."

We poor mortals are so apt to quit praying as soon as our fingers feel a few dollars; yes, when the sky is blue, and the sun is shining, and no one in the home sick, oh why is it we don't have time to get alone in prayer?

Prayerlessness is a son or daughter of unbelief. Backsliding starts with stiff knees, a tied tongue, and an independent, self-sufficient, and self-satisfied feeling. "To him that THINKETH he standeth, take heed (pray) lest he fall." The devil is not lying somewhere asleep, but lying in wait (in a secret place), to pounce upon you. Are you prepared? Do you have on the armor? Are you praying and asking God for divine guidance around every trap and pitfall?

An old colored man was asked, "Are your neighbours honest?" He said, "Yasir, dey is." "But you keep your shotgun loaded near your chicken coup, don't you?" "Yasir, dat's to keep 'em honest."

It's good wisdom to be thoroughly armed with God's armor. It may not keep the devil off of you, but it will help you put him off when he does get on.

PRAYER IS TOO LIGHTLY ESTEEMED, IT'S USED ENTIRELY TOO LITTLE. IT'S ALARMING TO THINK WE HAVE MADE IT OBSOLETE. (Here I feel like saying, O LORD, GIVE US AMERICANS BACK OUR COMMON SENSE; YES, COMMON SENSE ENOUGH TO PRAY.)

Jesus said, "Men ought always to pray and not to faint." Prayer will keep us from fainting, and "in due season we shall reap if we faint not." So after all is said and done, our reward depends on prayer.

I think it's a good thing to have a large vocabulary, and be able to use many well-meaning words. (No, I don't think it's any honour to stay ignorant.) But we don't have to use

ATTENTION, MINISTERS AND WORKERS ON THE FIELD!

You, no doubt, have received our "Pot of Gold" cards sent out to help boost the work of gathering valuable coupons in the interest of our orphanage work.

We feel sure you would be interested to know we have recently sent in many thousands of these for collection, and for this period we now stand almost at the junction of the road where their value will be increased sixty or seventy-five cents per thousand with another junction just a bit ahead that will mean one dollar more on them. If we can only reach these points in number, it will mean hundreds of dollars more for our work.

Don't you think this is worth a little extra effort on the part of all? In my mind's ear, it seems I can hear thousands of voices saying, "Sure we can and will do it." Well, we just have till January 31, 1945, to get them in at this increased value price, so please start now and delay no time, for all should be in this office not later than January 15. That will give a few days to count and get them on their final march for more money that our growing boys and girls need.—J. A. Muncy, Orphanage Superintendent.

great swelling words to touch the throne of God; PLAIN ENGLISH IS GOOD ENOUGH.

I heard of a Frenchman asking a British why they are usually successful, and he answered, "We usually pray before we go to battle." The Frenchman said, "We do that." To this the British fellow said, "BUT WE PRAY IN ENGLISH."

None can pray well but he that lives well. Prayer is a lock and key, a key for the morning and a lock for the night. Prayer moves the hand that moves the world. Paul added another verse, and asked that folks pray for him.

I especially ask the prayers of all. I feel led to write, but unless God helps me, my writing will be poor reading matter.

If all of you will pray earnestly for me, maybe Delk-Said will be Delk-Aid, and it would not hurt my feelings to hear from all who have time to write us. May God bless all. Let's make a final check-up and be sure we have on the whole armor of God. IT'S OF VITAL IMPORTANCE.

NOTICES

Will Brother and Sister Corley who pastored the church here in 1938, please write to me and give me your address? This is very urgent.—Mrs. A. L. Douglas, Wimauma, Fla.

Dear Evangel Readers: I have been with the Tomlinson Church of God but I am now doing pastoral work in the Church of God. Jer. 33:3 said, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not." I am a bishop in the Church of God, J. C. Jernigan, General Overseer. If I can help you in your spiritual work in a meeting, I will be glad to hear from you. I just closed a revival here in Austin where I am pastoring. I would like to hear from someone in need of help.—W. C. Hartgrove, 2403 E. 19th St., Austin, Tex.

All members and friends of the Church of God who are located in towns or cities in New Jersey where there is no church, please contact me at once. We will do our best to start a new work in your community.—W. Edwin Tull, 572 Central Ave., Newark, N. J.

Anyone having friends or relatives in Service stationed at the Banana River Naval Air Station near Cocoa, Fla., please write me, giving me their names and addresses, if you would like for me to contact them. I would be very glad to do so. The address of the church here is 919 W. Peachtree St.—Paul S. Shoemaker, pastor, 636 W. Peachtree St., Cocoa, Fla.

Broadcasts

Mt. Pleasant, Md., Church of God over station WFMD, Frederick, Md. Each Saturday from 4:30 to 5:00 p. m. Rev. George A. Horne in charge.

Canton, Ohio, Church of God over station WAKR, 5000 watts, 1590 kc. Each Sunday morning from 7:45 EST. A card or letter will be appreciated. Address all mail to G. W. Hodges, Box 381, Canton, Ohio.

The Church of God at Delbarton, W. Va., is on the air over station WBTH, Williamson, W. Va., 1400 kc., 250 watts, each Saturday afternoon from 3:30-4:00.—W. H. Compton, pastor, Delbarton, W. Va.

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THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

The General Overseer Speaks

JOHN C. JERNIGAN

EVANGELISM

It was the spirit of evangelism that spread the early church over the world. Without the same spirit and zeal the church of today will die.

The evangelistic fire is burning throughout the Church of God. Our ministers are on the go declaring everywhere they preach that men must repent of their sins and be saved. We believe that these six Assistant General Overseers went to their fields of labor with an evangelistic message on their hearts, and that the state overseers have the greatest determination to launch a state-wide evangelistic campaign over their respective states in both the local churches and in new fields, than ever in the history of the Church.

In the state ministers' meetings evangelism was given the greatest emphasis of any subject. Evangelistic parties were organized, and plans laid for preaching the full gospel in territories where it has never been preached before.

The State of Virginia has already reported four new churches set in order since the General Assembly in September. North Carolina and Alabama report three; Florida, Georgia, Texas, and Pennsylvania report two new churches organized, and several other states report one each. We have also licensed eighty-seven new preachers.

We have several battle-seasoned veterans who are serving their first year as overseers, and I want to tell you about some things that are happening in some of their states. J. T. Roberts, overseer of Alabama, is touring his state, spreading the fire everywhere he goes. During the month of October there were forty-seven revivals conducted in Alabama, and they have on a revival of building church houses and parsonages. Already since the General Assembly several have been built. Zeno C. Tharp, overseer of South Carolina, reports 629 conversions during the month of October. U. D. Tidwell, overseer of Tennessee, reports 577

saved in October. L. L. Hughes, overseer of Oklahoma, reports the evangelistic spirit running high in his state. W. H. Godwin, overseer of Montana, where the weather is cold and the Church of God people are few, reports one new church organized in his state. M. B. Norris, overseer of Arkansas, who did his part in Georgia organizing new churches and building church houses, is on the job with his evangelistic zeal, and God has given Arkansas one new church. The North Carolina state overseer is not a new man on the job but it is worth saying here that he reports 600 converted in his state during the month of October.

The blessing of God, as shown by the state overseers' reports, are upon all the states. We already have a nice gain of membership in the United States for this Assembly year. Most every state shows an increase in nearly every department of the church, both financially and evangelistically. The financial gains in every department over the same month last year show a good increase, which is a good indication of the rising of the spiritual tide in the local churches.

We are hearing of many blessed services where people are being saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost. The Church of God at Kannapolis, North Carolina, broadcasts hymns each Sunday afternoon for one hour. A few Sundays ago the blessing of God fell upon them in the studio while in song, and the power continued to fall until the evening service, where eleven were filled with the Holy Ghost; and recently, on Saturday afternoon, Brother A. V. Childers, pastor of the Kannapolis church, was invited to preach on the Holy Ghost in a local church of another organization, and as he spoke the Holy Ghost fell upon three of them and they began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

We are truly living in the last days when the Spirit is being poured out upon all flesh, and we hope and pray that every pastor will be endued with

the power of the gospel and start a revival in his church. The fire first begins to burn in the pulpit, and when it reaches a certain degree of spiritual fervor it will melt the ice in the cold-hearted church members, then the sinners will begin to awaken and become sensitive to their terrible predicament and will fall before the cross pleading for mercy and pardon. It does not take big preaching to get a revival started in your church. The simple story of the cross, backed up by a life of sincerity and prayer, will move men to seek God. Every local church should be a lighthouse for the lost, and the altar a meeting place between God and man. The pastor should feel that it is his duty to lead men from darkness unto this marvelous light, and never be satisfied or rest as long as no one is coming to his church interested in the salvation of their soul. At least every Sunday night should be given to evangelistic efforts. The pastor who does not have an evangelistic message lacks that much being qualified to pastor a church.

In the beginning the church was evangelistic. Men went everywhere preaching Christ. Great revivals broke out. The sick were healed, devils cast out, the lepers were cleansed, multitudes were saved, the devil got mad, and often the preacher was whipped or cast into prison, but when the church began to compromise with the world the preachers cooled off, and the members became worldly-minded and began to think more of themselves than they did of God, it was not long until the clouds of darkness and spiritual wickedness enveloped them and they found themselves with fine church buildings, educated pastors, rich treasures, and high social standing, but without God. The history of most religious organizations that have been started in the last days show that they began evangelistically, and as long as they remained so the church grew, but when it reached a certain stage of wealth and prosperity and the ministers began to think in

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RELIGION AND THE WORLD

By the Editor

The Cause of Child Delinquency

The cause of child delinquency is aptly shown in the fact that, according to *World Religious News*, of 18,000 questionnaires given to as many high school students in a certain state, 16,000 of them couldn't name three of the Old Testament prophets, 12,000 couldn't name the four Gospels, and 10,000 couldn't name three of the apostles of Christ. Lack of religious training in the home leaves the child's mind a blank, so far as accountability unto God for sin and the fact of redemption by the blood of Christ is concerned.

An Enlargement

L. W. McIntyre, state overseer of Georgia, commenting on the fact that the ministers in Georgia had pledged \$5,000 in personal offerings for the mission offering for the year, exclaimed that with other ministers and the laity to follow in giving, the offering would likely be the largest the State of Georgia has ever had. One minister said, "I wouldn't be surprised if the offering reaches \$20,000." I join in to say I wouldn't be surprised if it did. Likely, several states will give surprise mission offerings this year.

Radio Programs

N. A. E. Commission for Radio Broadcasters reported that of the 410 stations asked for a report on "complaints" against programs rendered, the replies showed that 73.5 per cent had poor programs; poor music, 66.3 per cent; competition with other religious groups, 48.5 per cent; suspicions of racketeering, 46.5 per cent; failure to appear, 45.5 per cent; unhelpful message, 37.1 per cent; poor cooperation with the station, 32.1 per cent. A study of these complaints and a comparison of them with your broadcast might be of particular help.

Where Is Hitler?

This has become quite a question among the Allied nations. It is pointed out that he may have fled Europe. Where? Herbert L. Matthews, correspondent of the New York Times, reporting from Rome September 9, stated that the Vatican is prepared

to give refuge to Hitler, Mussolini, and other Fascist war criminals. He quoted a Vatican spokesman as stating: "The Catholic Church would not close its doors even to Hitler himself if he sought asylum."

Child Desertion in Chicago

Sidney Harris, writing in the *Western Voice*, gave the following reports from agencies connected with child welfare:

"A tremendous and terrible increase in child desertion and neglect," said Jessie Binford, director of the Juvenile Protective Association.

"A complete breakdown in wartime family life," said I. Evelyn Smith, secretary of the child welfare division of the Council of Social Agencies.

"A growing tragedy in hundreds of homes," said Mary Rall, head of the United Charities' Family Service Bureau.

"We have 2,000 babies and children who need foster homes," said Charlotte Byrum of the United Home-Finding Service. "More are coming in every day."

2 Tim. 3:1-3 says that "in the last days perilous times will come, because that," besides many other things here named, "men will be . . . without natural affection." This means women also. Think of the precious boys and girls who will be the fathers and mothers of tomorrow, being deserted by their parents. The reaping of these sins will distressfully lower the quality of these fathers and mothers of the future.

Political Religious Outlook

Last evening, H. V. Kaltenborn said from Rome, "There is more being said in North Africa, Italy and France about and by the Communists than any other of the political parties." He said the Communists are shouting it out. Here in the United States, Upton Close, noted news commentator for Shaeffer Pen Company, said the National Broadcasting Company has notified his sponsor that they will no longer sell the pen company time after December 10. Mr. Close said, "The opposition to his broadcasts arose because he frequently had discussed 'the danger of Communism.'" There is a

general oppression of religion on the air, and anything that opposes Communism. Here follows another real circumstance of "boring from within":

"PITTSBURGH, Nov. 15 — Sixteen executive officers of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America were described as 'Communist conspirators' whose aim is 'to destroy the American system of free enterprise' and set up a 'communistic dictatorship' in a suit in equity filed in common pleas court here Saturday.

"The suit was filed by Harry Alan Sherman, business agent for the union, who was ousted from the union by executive board in March of 1943 for what he termed was 'openly opposing the communistic activities of the officers.'

"In his suit, Sherman is seeking reinstatement.

"Sherman said the defendants in the suit 'conspired, confederated and agreed together to achieve complete and absolute control' of the Congress for Industrial Organizations through controlled delegates to the conventions."

Communism is definitely aligned against religion, though many of them are daily working within the church as professed members and Christians, to get control of the church, to use it as a tool, and finally to destroy it. Some of us may have to suffer and give our lives yet for the testimony of Jesus Christ. The national and world outlook points to a rising tide of anti-Christian teaching and polity.

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Why Stand Ye Idle?

E. W. WILLIAMS, Asst. General Overseer

Text: Matt. 9:37, 38, *"Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."*

When we think of the thousands near our places of worship that have never heard the full gospel, and the many who would accept if they had the opportunity, we can truly say that the harvest is ripe.

When we see the fulfillment of prophecy according to the signs of the times, and that we are living in the shadow of the great tribulation, surely we can feel the need of praying for the Lord of the harvest to send more laborers into the harvest.

One thing that attracted the attention of the Master and caused the utterance of the above text was the condition of the multitude that was before Him. "But when he saw the multitude, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd." He had just previously healed a man sick of the palsy and a woman with an issue of blood, raised a ruler's daughter from the dead, opened the eyes of two blind men, and cast the devils out of a man who was dumb, and he spake. No doubt in the multitude there were those who were sick with different diseases, the widows, orphans, some that were in poverty, and many that were disappointed in life. Jesus understood and knew their condition, and as He saw the mass of suffering humanity His great, loving heart was moved with compassion. Not only did He sympathize with them, but He was "moved with compassion." He was ready to bring relief and minister to their needs.

We notice that in the ministry of Jesus He went about doing good. His ministry was not composed of preaching only, but He was ready to heal the sick, open the eyes of the blind, unstop the deaf ears, raise the dead and feed the hungry, and while doing this He was also ready to break to them the bread of life. We would not discredit His preaching. I would have been glad to hear the message that fell from His lips in that memorable

"Sermon on the Mount"! Yes, I would have been glad to hear the last great commission given to the apostles as recorded in the last chapter of Matthew. Although we were not there, yet it seems that I can hear His sacred voice echoing through the ages, speaking to His Church. "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." "Gospel" means good news and implies salvation for the soul and healing for the sick.

His compassion for the suffering was so great that He was moved into action. He said, "I must work the work of him that sent me." He was ready to work. Sometimes He was preaching to the multitudes, and again we see Him preaching to the woman at the well, the congregation composed of one, and listen to His message, "If you would ask of me I would give you water that you would never thirst again." He knew that her soul was longing for something that the world had failed to satisfy. If we have the Christ enthroned in our lives today, He still carries with Him that same desire to bless lost and suffering humanity, and you will have a burden for the lost and a desire to see souls saved.

You will feel that "go ye" and "I must work" burning in your soul. If you fail to have that passion for the lost, Jesus is not reigning supremely in your life.

Jesus said, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest." There is a demand in the Lord's harvest field for laborers. There are many who would be glad to accept a position but not many willing to labor. Jesus realized that the harvest was plenteous, but it would take some laboring to gather it. To have a soul-stirring revival, build a new church, add Sunday School rooms to your building, have a successful Sunday School or Y.P.E., or promote the interest of the church, somebody will have to labor, which means toil or exertion, physical or mental effort, difficulty, etc. For this cause many today are not having success in their Christian work. They are not willing to go through the physical or mental strain or put forth the special effort



it takes to promote the cause of Christ. But, thank God, while that is true, there are a faithful few who are working. The new churches, pastoriums, Sunday School rooms, and soul-saving revivals speak of the fervent zeal some have, and most of the churches have a 100 per cent report on all departments of the church. These stand out as monuments to their work, and when the great rewarding time comes they will not come in empty-handed but they can come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

The antonym of labor is idleness. If you are God-called and God-sent, how can you afford to be idle when the harvest is so plenteous? Do not pray that the Lord will show you the little things to do, but be willing to do whatsoever He bids you. If you are willing to work, He will give you plenty to do. If you do not get a church to pastor, the evangelistic field is wide open and with many calls. You furnish the grit and courage and God will furnish the grace and will take care of you. If you are not called into the ministry, you can work in your local church, be a prayer warrior, booster for your pastor, boost your church services, and take part in the different auxiliaries of the church. There is no excuse in being idle. Think of the hundreds just in a few blocks of your church who have never attended your services. Get in personal touch with them. Use a little tact. Many of them can be attracted to your Sunday School or church services. If the Lord is not using you, and

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Churches

Part Two

By JONATHAN D. BRIGHT,
Assistant General Overseer

Why Some Little Churches Stay Little

Location has much more to do with the success or failure of a church than many pastors and laymen have realized until they had erected their church building and endeavored to attract interest and attendance of the citizenry week after week and month after month, and, some, year after year, all to no avail.

Here are some possible reasons:

Accepted as a donation or bought property (cheap) in an undesirable section of town at the end of a narrow-gauged dirt road, just across the branch next to the pasture fence, one mile from the people.

It was for the purpose of curbing such poor selection of building sites, as well as the waste in money, time, and effort, that the following ruling was adopted by the General Assembly: "That location and plans for new church buildings and parsonages be submitted to and approved by the state and district overseers in their respective territories."

A wise merchant builds near the people for the obvious reason that his business depends on the patronage of the people, and he knows full well that he must not only have a store well supplied but it must be convenient to the people or they will trade elsewhere.

Pastors, this is true of a church. No matter how large and pretty your church building may be, without it is convenient to the people, that class that you can help most, and that will help you most, will not attend. The rowdies, flappers, tea hounds may come; if so, nine out of ten of them will disturb instead of receiving a blessing or being a blessing. Therefore, secure the very best possible location in the town, city, village, or community to build or buy your church, and your chances of present and future success will be good. Otherwise, your project is a failure, generally, to begin with.

Sociology is another feature that determines whether or not a church is as large or larger when set in order than at any other time.

A pastor can no more expect a membership constituted by members who are slouchy, uncouth, frivolous, worldly-minded, careless about their financial obligations, reckless with their talk, indifferent as to the needs of the pastor and church; I say he need no more expect a church like that to grow than a manager of a nut grove could expect Hasting's dwarfed chestnut trees to grow and produce as much as the giant chestnut trees.

We are not to high hat, or bar people from our congregation, but if a pastor would have his church be as "a city set on a hill," he will have to be not only anxious to receive members, but that those whom he receives are above "present" reproach.

It doesn't pay to overpersuade people to join the church. Neither should any pastor receive candidates for membership without he knows they have a thorough knowledge of that which, especially, is a test to membership.

God, for Christ's sake, is ready to forgive the worst of sinners, and we are, too, but many times when we try to start a church we have experiences with stragglers who have been in and out of every church in town, yet throw themselves in the altar and weep their way through to "their victory" and want to join the *Church of God right then*. They are total strangers to the pastors but not to members of the congregation. In the Church they go, and out from the congregation goes good prospective church material.

The Lord help us to reach the lost, but at the same time keep the Church from being swallowed up with that element that will do nothing for the Church but sing in the choir and keep good, consecrated singers out; pray with seekers and run them from the altar; shout while the church mourns and the congregation takes the tuck head; come to church with their body and clothes dirty and hair unkempt; turn their children loose to make a gymnasium out of the church. Last but not lacking in audacity, is that group that is in so much question by the outsiders that they stand squarely in the door, completely barring good prospects from every benefit in all the church services.

God help us to keep our social

standard so high and strong that it will lift the fallen outside the Church and purge or correct the fallen in the Church.

Deserting pastors is one of the most alarming, as well as very frequent, reasons that some churches have been dwarfed beyond recovery. That's why our Minutes carries this ruling: "Pastors and their helpers will be expected to remain on their respective charges throughout the entire pastoral year. If any changes are made, it should be under the direct supervision of the overseer of the state. No one should give up the work without giving due notice to the overseer and securing his advice and consent. Standing in the Church will depend on the observance of this advice."

In my experience as state overseer I have been embarrassed a few times and seen a few churches thrown on the rocks so tragically that for a time they seemed hopeless, because some preacher, due to lack of experience, stability, and respect for the "handful of members" that he was pastoring, as well as the state overseer, "pulled up and left."

Then there is the rejected church. This is the little church that was either started off in the wrong location, is a country church—without electric lights and no running water in the parsonage, a church that has a division in it, or maybe it is a one-man deacon church, or they just won't support the pastor. Anyway, the ministers have become allergic to it and, therefore, every year the state overseer has a few white elephants on his hands when it comes to placing pastors. Such churches are so terribly stunted and delinquent that their future looks doubtful.

Starvation is, scientists say, the most horrifying of physical suffering. If that be true physically, how dreadful spiritual starvation must be. Yet there are pastors who virtually starve their small charges to death every year.

How do they starve them? First, they do not feed them often enough. "The church does not pay enough to defray my expenses back and forth more than once or twice a month," they say. Second, when they do feed them, the menu is not very appetizing, therefore the flock continues to exist but remains anemic.

Many times these pastors say they have to work too hard to prepare messages. In that case that church needs

a new shepherd that will feed it. Another reason that some pastors give for their lack of interest in the little charge is that small churches is all the state overseer has ever given them. Maybe so, but if they would step out on God's promises like their state overseer and many other ministers in the Church have done, accept what was given as his job, and if he had to work a little occasionally, let it be as a side line, he would soon be given something better.

O dear pastors, stop limiting the possibilities of God, the Church and yourself. Give God a chance.

A young minister remarked to an elderly one, "I have only a few members in my charge." "My young man, that's more than you'll want to be held accountable for at the judgment."

What about it in your case, pastors?

Lastly, the UNCOOPERATIVE church is always little in principle and generally little in size. About the best analogy that I know of is the tiny cucumber that is slipped in a bottle to have its growth predetermined by the size of the bottle. It, when grown, is still small and is an object of pity rather than of admiration and respect.

Every uncooperative church is disloyal, a serious charge indeed, yet a true one. A church of this disposition has either gone lacking for proper instruction or has rebelled against it one.

Sometimes a little church takes the attitude that, due to its many and various handicaps, it should be considered as specially privileged and therefore be exempted from all STATE and GENERAL QUOTAS. As a general rule, however, a church is never solidly of this frame of mind without the PASTOR sympathizes with its DISLOYAL attitude.

One thing certain, a church, in taking this position, always deprives itself of far more than it reserves by withholding its support. In fact, it should always be kept in mind that the support of the LITTLE church, as well as the LARGE, is necessary to the success of the denomination as a whole.

Then there is the fact that principle is involved. Paul not only said, "Bear ye one another's burdens," but he also said, "Let every man bear his own burden, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Since this is the GOLDEN

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God, Our Refuge

MRS. E. D. JONES

"The Lord is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Ps. 46:1.

While the world is full of trouble, heartaches, sorrows, and sadness everywhere, and tears are seen every day, because of our boys being pulled away from home and slaughtered on fields far away, sin and crime all around us in our own lands, yet in the midst of it all we can have peace, peace in our hearts, not as the world gives but the peace of God. I feel so grateful to Him because that peace abides within my heart. I feel there never was a time in the history of the world just as today and we, as God's children, need to lay aside every weight and with one mind and one soul call on Him, who has never lost a battle, for mercy for the millions that are dying, and so many of them have never known this sweet peace. So many of them plunging into darkness without a ray of light. It is awful to be in darkness here and no light to shine for us, but imagine a soul plunging into eternity without God, out into gross darkness, there to remain for ever and ever. I wonder if we shine as we should to light the way for others so that they may find the "haven of rest." We are to be lights unto the world, but if we let the cares of life, unkind words, evil imaginations and many, many other things that may seem small, come in our lives, the light of His countenance will not be upon us, enabling us to shine as we should. We cannot shine for Him within our own strength, we must live before Him in an attitude that He can bless our lives with His presence or we are a failure in winning souls. Help us, Lord, to keep our minds clear and our hearts

pure that we may be a blessing for Thee.

We feel grateful to Him for His blessings here at Broad Creek. The devil has tried to drown us with discouragement but the Lord will always rescue us if we cling to Him. We feel proud of our good pastor and his nice family, Brother C. C. Holmes. We feel he is a God-send. Since he came here after the Assembly we have raised more than three hundred dollars for our building fund, the Sunday School having credit for more than one hundred dollars of that amount. Our attendance for the past two Sundays was seventy-one. We now have our church on wheels headed for the lot by the parsonage in the community and expect to have service there next Sunday, D. V. We are expecting our Sunday School attendance to mount higher and higher with the cooperation of our superintendent, E. D. Jones, and other officers and teachers. We succeed only when we are laborers together with God. We are grateful for financial blessing. We greatly appreciate His presence in our services and our everyday lives.

A few weeks ago He wonderfully blessed a Marine from over at Cherry Point, and it was thrilling to hear him tell how the Lord came down and blessed his heart over there, and with tears in his eyes he had to tell others about finding such a wonderful Friend.

On October 29, he, with three others, decided he wanted to be one of our little band and came into the Church of God last night, November 5. We had a real old-fashioned holiness service. I'm sure we'll all feel the effects of it for a long time. His presence was really great in our midst.

CONVENTIONS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

BAHAMAS: East Street Church, Nassau, January 9-14.

NORTHERN MEXICO: Ciudad Obregon, Sonora, January 18-21.

CENTRAL AMERICA: Guatemala, February 25-28. Short meetings in El Salvador, Honduras, Panama, and British Honduras, following as soon thereafter as can be arranged. Other conventions to be announced later.

Revival

FIRECO, W. Va.—A three weeks' revival has just closed at the Church of God at Jonben, W. Va., held by Rev. Leonard Atkinson. There were thirteen experiences—five saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost and eight saved. On Sunday, October 8, six went down into the water and were baptized. The same night five united with the church.—D. H. Eastridge, pastor, Allen Junction, W. Va.

The Need of Vision

W. H. GODWIN

The wise man Solomon said, "Where there is no vision, the people perish" Proverbs 29:18.

".... her prophets also find no vision from the Lord." Lamentations 2:9.

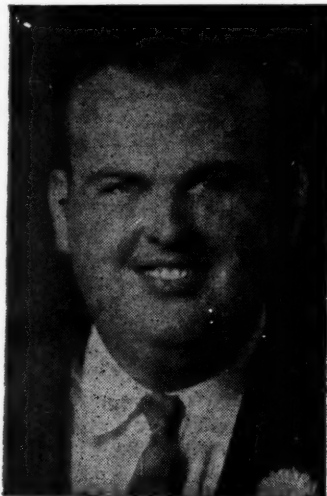
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A VISION OF GOD

In the year that King Uzziah died, Isaiah received a vision of the Lord sitting upon a throne high and lifted up. Up to this time, no doubt, Isaiah had his gaze fixed upon Uzziah; the king had been his hope and hero. He was the greatest king that had held the throne since Solomon. The record tells us that he had been mightily helped until he was strong. However, the success of Uzziah was the cause of his becoming intoxicated with pride. One day, under the spell of his pride, he went into the temple and stretched forth his hands for a holy task that God had reserved for others, thus he was smitten with the dreadful disease called leprosy. The disease dragged him from the palace to the pest house. The scepter was wrenched from his hand and the crown torn from his brow, thus Uzziah went to an untimely death. Now the throne was vacant and Isaiah's heart was broken and all his hopes dead. Thus he was able to see the Lord upon a throne high and lifted up. The Lord had been there all the time waiting to reveal Himself, but Isaiah had not looked His way.

Maybe it was because of the passing of your loved one or some great sorrow that came into your heart that caused you to see the Lord high and lifted up.

The last phrase of Isaiah 6:1 tells us His train filled the temple. This has reference to the skirts of His garment; however, we like to think of this as the power of God filling the house of the Lord. God help us all to get a greater vision of the Lord sitting upon



a throne high and lifted up and His train filling the temple. If there were more preachers who had this vision, there would not be as many pulpits vacant and people wondering why the house of God is forsaken. But where the prophet loses the vision of the souls of men and women, he will go to a defense job or anything that is offered for higher wages. It is my profound conviction that it is impossible for people to please God without a vision.

In verses five through seven he received

A VISION OF HIMSELF

"Thus he said, woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips and dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts." The outcome of this vision is that Isaiah realized a sense of his sin. A consciousness of God always brings a knowledge of sin. Job had wonderful faith in his own goodness but at the presence of God all of this vanished. Thus he said, "I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear, but now that mine eye seeth thee, I abhor myself in dust and ashes." When one feels himself in the presence of almighty God, instead of having a feeling of pride and haughtiness, he humbles himself and can see his own self as he really is. Too many people are weighing themselves upon the devil's

scales. When we weigh ourselves upon God's scales we see ourselves as we are.

In verse five:

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Isaiah not only received a vision of himself but also a vision of the people. He said, "... and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts." In order for a preacher to administer to his people, he must have a vision of God, of himself, and his congregation. Without these visions it is impossible for him to be successful in the ministry. The prophet Ezekiel received a vision of the children of Israel when he stated in Ezekiel 3:15, the third phrase, ".... and I sat where they sat, and remained there astonished among them seven days." If a preacher has the vision of his congregation, he will sit where they sit; likewise the congregation, where the minister sits.

After Isaiah received a vision of himself and his people, he received a cleansing. In verse six we have these words, "Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar." The seraphims were angelic beings. God grant that His prophets of this day will have their lips touched with a coal from off the altar of heaven, for we read in the seventh verse, "And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away; and thy sin purged." Inasmuch as the Old Bible is types and shadows of the New Testament, this purging is, no doubt, a type of cleansing.

In the eighth verse:

A VISION OF HIS DIVINE TASK

After Isaiah received the cleansing, then he received a vision of his divine task; and not only did he see the vision, but he accepted the divine call of the Lord. "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me." There were many reasons against this young man becoming a prophet and giving his life for the Lord, because he was a man of high social standing, he was at home in kings' palaces. We know that God longs for the rich and privileged as much as He does for the poor and underprivileged, however, it was true then as it is now that not many noble are called. More people would get a vision of the divine task the

(Continued on page 15)



CHRIST THE SAVIOR FOR THE HEATHEN

Missions • Missionaries



M. P. CROSS, Executive Mission Secretary

International Christian Brotherhood

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NEWS FROM SOUTH INDIA

In spite of a number of trials we have been passing through recently, we are able to report victory through Jesus. A number have been saved and filled with the Holy Spirit in various places, for whom we praise the Lord. At one place, where one of our brothers, who is nearly blind, is helping, seven received the fulness of the Spirit during some special meetings. He is a good student of the Word and the Lord is blessing his ministry.

We have felt the need for revival so we began special evening prayers here at headquarters with the Bible students and continued for about two weeks. On the night of the sixth three students received the baptism of the Holy Ghost, all three being converts from Hinduism. One of these is a young man from Tamil country, the only one in his family who has become a Christian. The other two are women students.

As a result of these special prayer meetings and tarrying meetings, in other places we are hearing of great blessings. At Anyalathanam outstation they have been having an old-fashioned revival with a goodly number coming for the meetings. On the last day twelve followed the Lord in water baptism and fifty-two took part in the Lord's Supper.

Brother Joseph, a worker in North Travancore, has been very ill with what seemed like typhoid, although the case was not diagnosed. He did not take the necessary precautions for typhoid, yet the Lord healed him. The first time he came to the meeting after his recovery, he still felt too weak to sit up, but during the meeting he was strengthened. He testified to his healing, saying that he had very high fever but over his head there was always a light burning and he had no fear at all of death though he came so near passing away. All during his illness he felt very happy.

On the seventh of this month I had the privilege of attending a women's bimonthly meeting in another district. So many of the women testified to healing of their bodies, some of them having been raised from death's door

in answer to prayer. How their faith in the Lord has been strengthened by the experiences they have gone through! The first one to testify told of her healing of typhoid when in the natural there was no hope of her living. During her illness she felt that whether she lived or died, she was the Lord's and she wanted only Him to be glorified.

Another testified that during her illness she was asked if she wanted treatment but she refused, saying that she wanted to trust the Lord alone. When she asked the Lord to heal her, two angels appeared by her bed to encourage her and the Lord honored her faith by raising her up. Some of those who testified were to follow the Lord in baptism the following day at one of the outstations in the district. Altogether, eight were baptized in water at that place the next day.

I quote from a letter received not long ago from one of our Bible women working in a district about forty miles south of us:

"The Lord is blessing the work here wonderfully in answer to prayer For the past three weeks we have been conducting blessed women's meetings in Punalur on Tuesdays. For two weeks Esther and I were working at Edamon and the Lord blessed us. We visited many houses, especially Hindus and Tamil people, and several dedicated themselves to the Lord. We also helped in tarrying meetings every night. Brother Paulose's daughter received the Holy Ghost Thursday night. Others were revived and some souls were saved.

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Reports from the Field

Fine Band at Greenville, N. C.

We went to the Church of God home-coming and fifth-Sunday meeting at Greenville, October 29. A good time was had by all. Brother O'Ham of Snowd Branch church, was the first speaker. Brother Luther Little, pastor of the church at Washington, North Carolina, conducted the healing services. Many people and requests for prayer were prayed for. An offering of over one hundred dollars was received for the church debt. The special singing was fine. The pastor and his wife of Kinston, North Carolina, sang, and it was grand. They have a fine band of people at Greenville church, also a splendid Sunday School. Brother Morris is the superintendent and he is really teaching them to sing. They make you feel welcome there.—Mrs. Albert Lewis, Rt. 3, Williamston, N. C.

Lord Blessing Work at Jim, W. Va.

JIM, W. Va.—We are sending up a shout of praise to our God, thanking Him for sending us over to Jim, West Virginia, to labor in His vineyard in the harvest of lost souls. We did not want to come over here at first but God would not let us be satisfied to do otherwise. When we did decide to come, a great peacefulness came over us. We are here to do our best for God. He has blessed from the very first service. The second Sunday night two souls were saved, and one sanctified and filled with the sweet Holy Ghost. We opened a revival which lasted four weeks. The whole country was stirred. God blessed in a wonderful way and we report that twenty-seven souls were saved, fifteen sanctified, six filled with the Holy Ghost, eighteen baptized in water, and twelve added to the church. Others are interested. Praise and honor be unto our God, for without Him we could do nothing.

We are thankful for the band of fine co-operative saints we have here. The love of God is manifested in their lives. We have some talented singers, too. We appreciate our songleader and Sunday School superintendent, Brother Jim Blankenship. The Sunday School has increased from fifty to one hundred five without any special boosting. We reorganized the Y. P. E. since being here and they are doing a

splendid work. Every one who reads this please pray for the continued progress of the church here. I trust that my Mississippi friends will pray a special prayer that this Mississippi boy will ever be humble and work for God.—Percy W. Herman.

God Is Blessing in Oakland, Cal.

I praise the Lord for the way He is blessing the Church of God in Oakland. I realize that the Lord is good and merciful to those that put their trust in Him. The palmist David said, "The Lord will give grace and glory. No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly." So if we walk right before the Lord then we can expect great things from Him. We have a wonderful man of God for our pastor. We love Brother and Sister Fowler and feel sure God will use them in a wonderful way in California. We also have a good overseer. Brother and Sister Douglas have surely put their heart and life in the work out here. Those that have sons in the Service stationed near here and would like for Brother Fowler to visit them, just write him at 2544 73rd Avenue, Oakland, California. He will be glad to be a blessing to anyone whom he can contact. We want to be humble servants and always be willing to work for the Lord.—Mr. and Mrs. George Ruff, clerk, 2956 East Seventh Street, Oakland 1, Calif.

We Are Really Working

MADISONVILLE, Tenn.—I want to let every one know about our good church here at Hiwassee. We have a splendid Young People's Endeavor. We have it divided into two sides—the Reds and the Blues. We are really working, too. We have a wonderful Willing Workers' Band also. The Lord is working with us.—Othel Hickey, Route 3.

Progressing in Glamorgan

GLAMORGAN, Va.—Just a note of praise for what God has done for us here. Since the Assembly six have been saved and one added to the church, a young man who is truly a blessing to the church. In coming to Glamorgan I found a good church and a band of people who want to do

something for the Lord. We bought one acre of land and paid for it in thirty days. We now have the foundation of a five-room parsonage laid. By the time you read this report we plan to have this house completed. Our Sunday School has more than doubled and we give God all the praise.—J. B. Holcomb, pastor.

The Harlan District Marches On

HARLAN, Ky.—We, the members of the Church of God at Harlan, Kentucky, wish to thank the Lord for our good pastor, F. R. Harrawood, with whom He has blessed us this year. We believe he is a real man of God. He is a man that doesn't have to fan the gospel that he preaches to keep it alive. He is loved by all with whom he comes in contact. By the help of all concerned and the Lord the Harlan district is going forward. Since the Assembly we have had five to unite with the church here. Four were saved in the Sunday night services before we started our revival which is now in progress. Men, women, boys, and girls are seeking for the Holy Ghost in the old-time way. They are falling on the floor under the power of God. The church is growing in every department. Our Sunday School has doubled since the Assembly. Our pastor is on the air six days a week over station WHLN, Harlan, Kentucky, from 8:00 to 8:15 a. m., Monday through Saturday, on 1230 kilocycles. The name of the program is "Spiritual Strength for the Day." The reason for our success is because of the good leadership and that the people have a mind to work.—Silas Richardson.

Have Church of God Now in Sheboygan

SHEBOYGAN, Wis.—We are happy to report that we now have a Church of God in this city, which is bordering on Lake Michigan and has a population of over ten thousand. We came here in February of this year, and started house meetings. On June 24 we rented a store building on the main street of the city and held evangelistic services. As a result we now have a fine group of Christians who are on fire for God and faithful to the church. We ask that the saints remember this new church in their prayers, that God may make it a lighthouse for this city, for the salvation of souls.—Walter C. Enoch, pastor.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

PRAY FOR:

God to undertake for my family and home. — Mrs. Eula L. Crum, 4107 Hague Ave., Baltimore, Md.

God to heal my feet, they will have to be operated on; my husband; my father-in-law who broke his arm; me to receive the Holy Ghost.—Mrs. Rosa Bufkin.

God to heal my body of something like rheumatism, I can hardly walk.—Sister Mollie L. Wilson, 815 N. Carlyle St., Tyler, Tex.

God to heal Bettie Isace, 3rd Annex, T. B. Sanatorium, Alto, Ga., of T. B.—Mrs. E. V. Smith, Lawrenceville, Ga.

The healing of my body, I have been sick so long. Encouragement appreciated.—Mrs. Ellen Pennington, 2920½ More St., Ashland, Ky.

The Lord to heal me of arthritis, rheumatism and other ailments.—Alford Baker, Rt. 1, Doctors Inlet, Fla.

The Lord to heal my head.—Dair Crawford, c/o Ola McCue, Rt. 3, Easley, S. C.

The Lord to restore my hearing. I have been deaf two years; my son in Service overseas.—J. I. Morgan, Rt. 1, Box 167, Harrison, Tenn.

My mother to be healed of asthma. Encouragement appreciated. — Myrtle McKenzie, Rome, Miss.

The Lord to heal my body. I have had seventeen hemorrhages and have other troubles, if the Lord doesn't undertake I cannot be here much longer; my adopted son to be healed, he is almost seventeen years old but has the mind of a four or five-year-old child.—Mrs. Georgia Norris, Route 1, Hartford, Ky.

The Lord to heal my body, I have been afflicted all summer; my sister's husband who is somewhere in France.—Mrs. Cora Fleming, Rt. 1, Box 73, c/o Mission Dam, Murphy, N. C.

Me to be healed, I am in a very serious condition, possibly appendicitis, gas, indigestion, thought to be ulcers of the stomach, kidney trouble, nervousness, and fast heart. Pray the Lord will give me faith to believe He will heal my body.—Eliza Webb, Madison, Fla.

God to heal my grandmother; my father to be saved and healed of a cough; the complete healing of my

body; Brother Talmadge McNabb.—Miss Addie Mae Wood, Rt. 2, Samson, Ala.

My brother, Pvt. Romales F. Cranfield, who is in France. — Mrs. Ida Belle Hixson, Birchwood, Tenn.

My husband who is in the army.—Mrs. Marvin P. Davis, Winfield, Ala.

A very urgent unspoken request.—Sister J. H. Wells, Callahan, Fla.

Two boys in Lauderdale County jail, Meridian, Miss., who are sentenced to die Dec. 29. They are saved, but have asked the governor to give them a life sentence.—Mrs. R. E. Harris, Meridian, Miss.

My brother-in-law's healing of a bad affliction.—Mrs. Roy Vannoy, 427 Dry St., East Alton, Ill.

The Lord to undertake for me.—Lester Earl, c/o H. C. Vaughn, Rt. 1, Box 67, Rhine, Ga.

Me to be healed; my husband.—Mrs. Carl E. Danes, 1017 20th St., Huntington, W. Va.

My granddaughter to be healed; my body; my nephew who is in the hospital; my friend to hear from her soon; my son and husband. — Eva Luckey, Rt. 1, Box 17, Mize, Miss.

Healed of T. B. Through the Power of God

ROME, Ga. — I truly thank and praise God this morning for the way He has healed my body of T. B. It really pays to hold on to Jesus. On the night of July 21, 1944, I waked up at twelve o'clock, spitting up blood. When morning came it just poured from my mouth but I just held on to God and had the saints to pray. On Monday afternoon about five o'clock God healed me of the hemorrhage of the lung and I am truly happy in the Lord today as I am up and going anywhere I want to go, and it is through the power of God.

I can never thank the Lord enough for what He has done for me, and in my weak way I am trying to write and hope that it may be a blessing to someone who needs healing for their bodies. The doctor who X-rayed me said that my lungs showed the scars where I had T. B. badly but it was healed now. Praise God for the wonderful work that He did. It is truly wonderful what He will do for us if

Revival

BEATTYVILLE, Ky.—We are happy to report a very successful revival just closed in Beattyville, Ky., at the Church of God, with one receiving the Holy Ghost, one sanctified and many at the altar. The saints were wonderfully blessed. We had the Lord's supper and feet washing on the last night, with the power of God falling from the time we came in the building until we left. Things are really going for God at Beattyville. We are expecting a great year with the Lord. The evangelist for our revival was Rev. Jessie Bowman, of Clay City, Ky.—Frank Rose, pastor.

NOTICES

(Continued from page 2)

Change of Address

G. W. Hodges—Old: 4003 10th St., Tampa, Fla. New: 1102 16th St., S. W., Canton, Ohio.

W. Edwin Tull—Old: Edgewood Grove, Somerset, Pa. New: 572 Central Ave., Newark, N. J.

G. C. Hamby—Old: 402 S. Leslie, Knoxville, Tenn. New: 604 Avenue W. P. C., Birmingham 8, Ala.

J. L. Goins, overseer of West Virginia—106 Hume Ct., Beckley, W. Va.

J. D. Bright, Asst. Gen. Overseer of Western District—2128 Marshall Way, Sacramento, Calif.

we can just have the faith.

Please pray for me that I can always have faith in God and trust in Him.—Mrs. V. L. Robinson, 5 Wright St.

1945 GIST OF THE LESSONS

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Cleveland, Tennessee

NATIONAL BIBLE READING FROM THANKSGIVING TO CHRISTMAS

TRANSLATING AND DISTRIBUTING THE BIBLE

When the Yanks landed on Marshall and Gilbert Islands, they found that the Bible had gotten there first—and a long time before. Our nation was struggling with the problem of slavery when the first Scriptures were set down in the languages of these Pacific isles. Hiram Bingham, a missionary, made the first translation of Chapters 1 to 12 of the Gospel of Matthew for the Gilbert natives in 1860, reducing the language to writing for the first time. He accomplished the Herculean task of translating the entire Bible in 1893. The Marshalls received parts of Matthew's Gospel printed on a tiny mission press in 1858, and the entire New Testament was published in the native tongue by the American Bible Society in 1885.

The task of translating the Bible into native dialects is a heroic one, and only the selfless Christian devotion of the missionary translator and his aides makes it possible. In many instances, the Bible is the first written record of the language.

The mass production of Bibles and the translation of the Scriptures into the widely spoken and obscure languages of the peoples of the earth has been primarily the work of the Bible societies in the United States and Great Britain.

Before Gutenberg invented the printing press in 1453, there had been a few translations of the Bible laboriously copied by hand. The Syriac version of the New Testament appeared in the second century, and Jerome's great "Vulgate" edition, in Latin, the official Bible of the Roman Catholic Church, in the fourth. In the twelfth century, translations were begun in modern European languages.

On the eve of the invention of printing, thirty-three languages—twenty-two in Europe, seven in Asia and four in Africa—had had some part of the Bible. By 1800, seventy-one languages and dialects had seen some printed portion of the Scriptures.

With the rise of the great missionary movement, in the early nineteenth century, came the Golden Age of Bible translation. In the brief space of thirty years, eighty-six languages received some part of the Bible for the first time, more than in all the 1,800

years before. This was the era of the modern pioneer missionary translators. Among them were William Carey and other missionaries working with him at Serampore, India, near Calcutta, who produced New Testaments in twenty-seven languages and whole Bibles in nine more. Robert Morrison in China, Henry Martyn in Persia, Adoniram Judson in Burma and Henry Nott in Tahiti are also great figures of this period in the field of Bible translation.

These men and others wrestled with the many colloquial dialects of China and with the tribal tongues of Africa and India. There are more than 300 African languages in which the Bible appears. Thousands of native linguists who assist the translators have made indispensable contributions to this achievement. With the founding of the Bible societies—the British and Foreign in 1804, and the American in 1816, the almost insuperable burden of translating, proofreading and printing, was facilitated, and distribution was vastly extended.

The American Bible Society today reports that some complete portion of Scripture has been translated and published in 1,062 languages and dialects. Its goal is that every man willing to possess the Scriptures should have them in his own tongue and at a price within his reach, however much it may cost the Society. In addition to building a network of publishing and distribution centers in our own and foreign lands (some of which have been curtailed by the war), the Society handles finances, translation committees, and composition, proofreading, plates, press work, paper, binding, and storage.

The Bible is the only book that is in continuous production. It has been a best seller in this country every year since 1800. Recent careful estimates indicate that each year sees at least 25,000,000 copies of the Bible, in whole or part, produced throughout the world. This production is not limited to America, but includes in normal times London, Amsterdam, Oslo, Stockholm, Istanbul, Beirut, Cairo, Calcutta, Shanghai, Sydney, Rio de Janeiro, and scores of little presses operated by Christian missionaries in China, India, Africa and the islands

of the sea.

The time when there will be at least some portion of the Bible in every language spoken on the globe is not in some far-distant age, but in the foreseeable future. Even now, it is possible for nine-tenths of the peoples of the earth to have the experience of those who heard the apostles on the Day of Pentecost—to hear in their own tongues, the wonderful works of God if only they had access to a copy of the Book and could read, or have someone read to them.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

December 16

ST. JOHN'S GOSPEL, CHAPTER 17

A Selection

*Jesus' prayer the night before
His Crucifixion*

These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: as thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was . . .

December 17

ISAIAH 53

A Selection

He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

December 18

1 CORINTHIANS 15, A LETTER
OF ST. PAUL

A Selection

Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be

changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

December 19

ST. JOHN'S GOSPEL, CHAPTER 10

A Selection

I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

But he that is a hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth; and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth, because he is a hireling, and careth not for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

December 20

PSALM 51

A Selection

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy loving-kindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me...

O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall show forth thy praise.

For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it; thou delightest not in

burnt offering.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

December 21

PSALM 37

A Selection

Fret not thyself because of evil-doers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.

Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him; fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

December 22

ST. JOHN'S GOSPEL, CHAPTER 1

A Selection

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God.

All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.

That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the

flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

He Has Sufficient Grace and Power to Heal

BEARWALLOW, Va.—I am glad that Christ saved my soul two years ago when I was seventeen. Never in my life did I drink, smoke or swear, nor did I realize that I had to be born of the Spirit of God to have eternal life. But thank God, one night He made me realize the necessity of salvation. He came down in wondrous power and eradicated the burden of sin, sanctified me wholly, and prepared me for the baptism of the Holy Ghost, but those first joys of salvation have secretly diminished and have left my soul hungry for the deeper blessings of salvation.

Unfortunately, I have been deprived of attending any Holy Ghost meetings, but have had the privilege of hearing some soul-stirring sermons and songs by means of radio.

I thank the Lord for the blessings He bestows on me. I am so glad I am a child of the King, that no matter how high the storms of life are raging He comes to my rescue.

During the last few years I've been growing weaker physically. Thank God for His sufficient grace and power to heal. I know He will transform my life soon. I am so happy our blessed Redeemer died for the healing of our bodies as well as for the salvation of our souls. For the past six months I have received numerous encouraging letters from the saints of God throughout the nation, telling me they are having special prayer for me. Oh, what joy and consolation that brings to my heart!

Please pray that Christ will soon deliver me from my physical weakness and empower me for service, that I may be an asset to His kingdom and glory.—James T. Ward, Jr.

Revival

SEMINOLE, Okla.—A great revival has just closed at Seminole, Okla., with twenty-six saved, nine sanctified, eight filled with the Holy Ghost, and the church wonderfully blessed. The revival was conducted by Joseph and Mary Daniel of Florida.—B. M. Woolwine, pastor.

SOLDIER'S WEEKLY — LETTER —

November 5, 1944

Dear Mother and Family:

Just a few lines in answer to your letter received. Surely was glad to hear from you and that everything is going well with all of you. As far as myself, I am still O. K. I surely would like to see all of you this morning. I have just come back from church services. We don't have a chapel yet, so the chaplain holds services out under the trees. We really have a swell chaplain. He has visited us many times while we were on the front lines.

I get the Purple Heart today for injuries received in a hand grenade battle with the Japs. It wasn't serious. I was out of action only six days. I'll probably mail it home in a few days, the medal I mean. I'll keep the ribbon myself. I guess you've read about our operation down in the Carolines on the Ulithi atolls. It was on the Island of Asor. It wasn't too bad down there. It was a pretty nice little island.

Viva wrote me that Leroy was saved and doing O. K. now. Well, it was not too long ago when I decided to change my way of living. I only regret that being pinned down by Jap machine gun fire caused me to see my mistake. I should have realized it earlier. But I promised the good Lord if He would see me through, I'd live a better life, so I'm sticking to my promise. The fellow who said there are no atheists in fox holes knew what he was talking about. I've seen the worse ones break down and pray to God.

That's about all I know of to write about now, so I will close for this time. Write as often as you can and don't worry about me.—Love, Staff Sgt. Glenn Smith. (Son of Rev. Odis Smith, Union, S. C.)

CHURCHES

(Continued from page 7)

RULE OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP, it is only reasonable to assert that adherence to it would dispense with the undeniable fact that the minority bears the responsibility for not only itself but also that of the majority of members in **LITTLE** and **LARGE** churches.

It is true that the percentage of

uncooperative churches is much smaller than that of individual members, yet there can hardly be the sentiment of the "good-neighbor policy" amongst the churches on a district, or as for that, throughout the state, where churches claim exemption, to the embarrassment of the pastor, district overseer, and state overseer. After all, there is a fellowship and unity that is to exist between local churches which can only be sustained and promoted by real Christian cooperation.

You have noticed that I have been stating facts without sugar-coating or varnishing. I shall continue, yet with love and concern. Therefore, without apology I say that the general run of churches, though little and weak, that fail to cooperate by bearing their part of the financial programs, feel no obligation to pay tithes or give much by way of offerings to support the pastor and local church. Yet, they contend that all their support must be so directed. However, they feel that they should be supported freely by the state mission treasury or from a fund of some kind at Headquarters. Yet somehow the five per cent mission on gross tithes, that creates a fund from which help is given to churches of struggling circumstances, is lightly considered. Not only that, but no importance is attached to the twenty per cent of tithes that supports the state overseer and general officials, which is made possible only as faithful members pay their tithes.

This thing of localizing breeds the terrapin attitude, mistrust, disrespect, and unconcern for practically every department of the general Church—Bible School, missions (home and foreign), Orphanage, publishing interest, Ladies' Willing Workers' Band, Young People's Endeavor, etc.—which means that ultimately churches of such disposition come to "despise governments and speak evil of dignities" (leaders). Generally, members of this character think of their duty in terms of a "shouting, spiritual church," and they think that programs, system, and government "kills the Spirit." It is almost impossible for a state overseer to give such a church a pastor.

Many churches of this warped attitude have been saved by courageous, level-headed pastors who stood firm for the general Church. Many more will either be saved or lost, dependent

SPECIAL NOTICE TO EVANGELISTS

All evangelists who have not as yet sent in your 1944 license for renewal, please do so before December 31 of this year, as they are void after that date. Send same to the Church of God General Secretary and Treasurer, Cleveland, Tennessee. Please give on the reverse side of your old license the address to which you wish your new license mailed, also the place of your present membership.

If you are serving as pastor, please ask your respective State Overseer for the "Authority of Pastor Evangelist."

Respectfully,
JOHN C. JERNIGAN,
General Overseer.

largely on the fortitude and discretion of the pastors who are placed over them.

THE GENERAL OVERSEER SPEAKS

(Continued from page 3)

terms of the church's responsibility to themselves and took advantage of the comforts, honors, and financial help the church was able to give them. The very minute God's ministers decided that the church owed them something, the spiritual progress of the church was greatly retarded. I would to God that every minister and laymen in the Church of God would sit down alone with God and take a pencil and paper, draw a line in the center of the paper, and list on the left-hand side everything that God and the church owes them, and on the right-hand side list the things where you are indebted to God and the church, and then balance the accounts and undertake to pay the difference that you owe to God and to His Church.

Our lives make more impression on the world as to what we think of Christ than all we can write or say about Him; and if we fail to confirm what we say by what we do, our testimony will be consigned to the waste basket by the public.

What some people call liberty is permission to do as they please.

THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

CHAPLAIN WICKERSHAM CONDUCTS SERVICES FOR GERMAN PRISONERS

Circulating among 2,900 German prisoners of war aboard a Navy transport during a voyage from Mediterranean ports to the United States, Lieut. Raymond G. Wickersham, Chaplain Corps, USNR, sounded them out on religion and found a spark of faith alive among them.

Through one of the prisoners, who had been a lawyer and spoke English, he was told they had not been permitted to have religious gatherings of any kind—not even a hymn-sing—while serving in the German Army.

On the other hand, they said they did not look upon Nazism as a religion. They had not practiced neopaganism. They just hadn't worshipped. And a considerable number showed interest in the chaplain's survey, of whom 55 per cent professed to be Protestants and 45 per cent Catholics.

Some of them requested prayer books or Testaments. Chaplain Wickersham told them he had none printed in German. They replied that quite a few among them understood English. So he supplied about one hundred of the booklets.

Those who took this literature were mostly older German soldiers. One of them was sixty and had been in the Army five years. He told of having visited New York years ago, and of having married an Englishwoman. He said he regretted the lack of religious training for German youths.

The youngest of the prisoners appeared to be scarcely fourteen, but he told the chaplain he was sixteen and a half. He had served in a German labor battalion and was taken prisoner by American forces near Belfort, France.

There were thirty officers among the prisoners. Six of them requested religious services the first Sunday of the voyage. They were admitted to the regular services, and were reverent and joined in the singing. The next Sunday a dozen of the German officers attended the services.

All hands among the prisoners were told they could hold services below decks, choosing one of themselves to conduct, but they did not exercise this privilege. A fear of their leaders seemed to deter them. Also a factor may have been the fact that none had experience as a clergyman.

Some of the prisoners were patients

in the sick bay. Several confided in the Navy hospital corpsmen this fear of their leaders. Incidentally, one of the Germans had an accordion and he played to entertain the sick and wounded. He was captured at Oran and had been a prisoner eighteen months.

Prisoners were given the freedom of the deck in certain hours—at least two hours a day on topside for each. It was their "place in the sun" for fresh air and recreation. They had games, and showed most interest in cards, checkers, and chess. But most of all they welcomed the Radio Press sheets every morning. Those who knew English interpreted for the others.

They were hungry for news little less than for food, Chaplain Wickersham related. As for the food, it was good and obviously they relished it. They were fed two square meals a day, and those in working parties got a third meal. After eating their fill, they stuffed bread in their shirts, and "ate it like cake" between meals.

Toward the end of the voyage, said the Chaplain, their gloom lifted and they sang a lot—and had excellent voices. This, he said, was in contrast with the conduct of prisoners which the ship carried on a much earlier voyage. Those prisoners were members of the Afrika Korps, and they had sung while embarking. They laughed off Rommel's defeat as a temporary setback.

THE NEED OF VISION

(Continued from page 8)

Lord has for them in this life if they could get a vision of the Lord on *His throne high and lifted up!* As God placed Adam and Eve in the garden to keep it, He also has a task for each individual to do if they can only get a vision of that task. But in order to get a vision of that task they must get a vision of God. Many speak of being called of the Lord to perform a certain duty; but the Lord not only calls, He sends. The fellow that feels called but not sent will probably stay around home and never launch out into the deep—in other words, a home guard. But the fellow that not only feels called but feels that he is sent to preach the gospel, will go wherever the opportunity presents itself, even to the uttermost parts of the earth. Too many people claim they are called, but evidently have never said with Isaiah, "Here am I, Lord, send me."

In the eleventh verse Isaiah asked

the question, "Lord, how long?" And the Lord answered, "Until the cities be wasted without man, and the land be utterly desolate." In other words, we are to preach this Gospel as long as there is a living soul on the earth to preach it to. There are many fellows who have evidently decided that the land is utterly desolate, as they have stopped proclaiming the glad tidings of peace.

Isaiah was not the only man that was obedient to the call of God in the form of a vision. In Acts 26:19, when the Apostle Paul stood before King Agrippa, he made the statement, "Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision." After he obeyed this vision and while he was awaiting Nero's "chop-block," he wrote these words to the young man Timothy, "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them that love his appearing."

If Paul had not been obedient to the heavenly vision, it would have been impossible for him to make these statements. May the Lord help us to get a vision of Him high and lifted up and His train filling the temple. Amen!

WHY STAND YE IDLE?

(Continued from page 5)

you are not making much success, remember the Lord's demand is for laborers. If we will work, God will work with us and He will put His approval on our services.

Before you can work successfully as you should, you must have the right motive. Do not work for worldly honor, financial gain, or for some selfish purpose, but for the salvation of the lost, and to do this you must have a passion for souls.

If we can double our number of workers this year, we will see the Church grow by leaps and bounds. Let us rally our forces for the Church and pray that God will continue to bless. Just give vent to that holy fire and zeal that wants to burn in your soul. Give God a chance and watch the Church grow. Oh glory! Don't you feel a touch of that fire now?

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No. 172A—American Standard Bible, center column reference, genuine leather binding, maps, \$5.25

No. 49L—Child's Text Bible, illustrated, leather binding. Price \$3.00

No. 6353X—Concordance Edition, King James Version, bold type, self-pronouncing, genuine leather binding, India paper, center column reference, concordance and Bible helps. Price \$7.50

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